

A Reform in Contemplation.

The New York city board of education has requested the superintendent to report what he thinks of the expediency of keeping school on Saturday, just as on other days of the week. This opens up a new field for discussion, in which the teachers and scholars will feel a lively interest. The question arises why teachers should be let off with five days work in seven, when everybody else is compelled to work at least six. We remember hearing the reason for the five day custom assigned, when we were younger than we are now, and it ran in this wise: In olden times the ministers of the gospel were the only ones that had learning sufficient to qualify them for teachers, and they were generally employed in that business. They were required to preach on Sunday, and to enable them to prepare for this important service, it became necessary to allow them the use of Saturday therefore. Hence the origin of the custom. At the present time, teaching and preaching are separate branches of business, and the reason for the rule has ceased to exist. And yet the practice is in full force. There must be some other good reason for it, or it must be changed. The New York superintendent, we have no doubt, will examine the subject, and report the reasons. Among them will be prominent, the necessity of a little relaxation to the mind, and of recreation to the bodies of the pupils. This is the true reason, if one exist. We shall look for the report with not quite so much interest as the juveniles of New York, but with a desire to know what can be said in favor of this exception to the general rule of labor.—[O. S. Journal.]

IMMENSE IMMIGRATION.—The Burlington Telegraph says "the immigration into Iowa, at all the crossings, the present season is unparalleled in the history of the past. The steam ferry at that city (one of the largest on the river) is kept in motion from morning until night, and frequently until midnight. The consequence is that every evening, whole acres on the opposite side of the river may be seen covered with the wagons, tents and cattle of the emigrants. The merchants, grocers and manufacturers are reaping a fine harvest in the way of furnishing supplies to the traveling million. At present rates, at least 100,000 souls will be added to the population of this state during the present season. And why not? for Iowa is the garden spot of the west."

EFFECTS OF THE NEBRASKA BILL.—There never was a completer or more disastrous miscarriage than the Nebraska bill. It has not only blasted every expectation that was originally formed of it, but it has proved to its authors a positive and unmitigated curse. Instead of giving effect and confirmation to the compromise of 1850, it has blasted that compromise into nothingness. Instead of securing two additional slave states to the Union, it has secured two additional free states. Instead of putting an end to the free soil doctrine, it has given that doctrine a power and a respectability which it never possessed before, and which, we believe, it could never have attained through any other medium than that opened by this bill. We do not speak of this in exultation. Most certainly not. There is much in the present aspect of things that we deplore—much that we did our utmost to prevent, by doing our utmost against the passage of the bill. But the responsibility is not with us—our duty has been thoroughly discharged. Able to do nothing more, we can fitly turn the battle over to our former opponents of the Virginia school, and withal, enjoy a smile or two at the sight of their obstreperous vowings before all the stars of high heaven, they'll ne'er submit, yet all the while submitting.—[Evening News, Charleston.]

The great Pacific railroad project of Robt. J. Walker & Co., is likely to fall through after all the noise about it. Before that donation of Texas land could be obtained, \$300,000 must be deposited with the officers of state as a pledge. This sum was to be deposited by the 30th of October. A Texas paper of the 21st of October says the funds will not be forthcoming, and the entire scheme, for the want thereof, will tumble to the ground.—[O. S. Journal.]

A correspondent of the New York Herald states that an expedition is to be organized during the ensuing winter, the object of which is to wage a war of extermination against the Sioux Indians, and other hostile tribes, who have been engaged in the late outrages on the plains. This force is to be concentrated upon Jefferson Barracks, early in the spring, so that active operations may commence without delay, as soon as the weather may permit. The force will consist of the second regiment of infantry, three companies of the second dragoons, and one section of light battery, now stationed at Baton Rouge—the whole under the command of Col. Sumner. This force will also be joined by all the men that can be spared from the garrisons of the forts which are scattered through that region, and there is a probability that at least two companies of mounted volunteers, composed of frontier men, will be added to the command. After they have accomplished their duties in that region, they will turn their attention to the Camanches, and will act in co-operation with the forces now stationed upon the frontiers of Texas.

The Cincinnati Commercial is pitching into Senator Pugh, thus:—"Seven years ago, when Cincinnati had a currency of her own, Mr. Pugh pledged himself to its destruction. 'From turret to foundation stone,' said Mr. Pugh, 'the banks of Cincinnati shall come down. I devote myself to the work.' We heard the speech, and remembered it. The work has been done according to Mr. Pugh's intention, if not by his instrumentality. If it is a good work he is entitled to credit, and he is doubtless obliged to us for recalling the attention of the public to its projector; if otherwise, who doubts our right to set forth a fact of which we were personally cognizant?"

CALIFORNIA FARMING—IMMENSE CROPS.—The Alta California contains the following intelligence of the crops, &c., in California: "There is no branch of business considered at a lower ebb in this country at present than farming. It is the general impression that every one engaged in this occupation is driving a ruinous business. It is scarcely reasonable to suppose that it could be otherwise, when it is borne in mind that wheat is not selling at one half the price it brings in New York, while labor on this side of the continent is three or four times as high. The native richness of our soil makes up, however, in some instances, for this discrepancy. In conversation yesterday with a farmer from Alameda county, on the bay, about ten miles south of Oakland, he informed us that he had found his crop this year quite profitable. His land is a very choice selection. He had 76 acres of oats, which yielded 7,200 bushels, or about 95 bushels to the acre; 23 acres of wheat, which yielded 1,800 bushels, or about 78 bushels to the acre; 25 acres of barley, yielding 1,500 bushels, or 60 bushels to the acre; and 53 acres of potatoes, 17 of which had been dug, producing 2,600 sacks of 130 lbs each, or nearly 20,000 lbs to the acre."

EXCELLENT REPARTEE.—The Rev. Dr. M'C. minister of Douglas in Clydesdale, was one day dining in a large party where the Hon. Henry Erskine and some other lawyers were present. A great dish of cresses being presented after dinner, Dr. M'C., who was extravagantly fond of the vegetables, helped himself much more largely than any other person, and as he ate with his fingers, with a peculiar voracity of manner, Mr. Erskine was struck with the idea that he resembled Nebuchadnezzar in his state of condemnation. Resolved to give him a hit for the apparent grossness of his taste and manner of eating, the wit addressed him with, "Dr. M'C., ye bring me in mind of the great king Nebuchadnezzar;" and the company were beginning to titter at the ludicrous allusion; when the reverend vegetable devourer replied, "Ay, do I mind ye o' Nebuchadnezzar? That'll be because I'm eating among the brutes!"

Texas negroes, of late, are in the habit of running off to Mexico in droves—tempted thither by tribes of women wandering about like gypsies. So it is said. The slaveholders, however, are organizing, to prevent a continuance of the stampede.

STATE FAIR.—We learn from the Cleveland Herald that the entries in all the departments up to the time of closing the books at noon on Friday, were—

Class A.—Cattle	271
Do. B.—Horses	305
Do. C.—Sheep	163
Do. D.—Swine	79
Do. E.—Poultry	117
Do. F.—Farming Implem'ts & Mach'y	165
Do. G.—Farm Products, &c.	102
Do. H.—Textile Fabrics, Fine Arts	266
Do. I.—Metallic Fabrics, Machinery, &c.	137
Do. K.—Mechanical Department	61
Do. L.—Ceramic, Chemical and Natural Products	30
Do. M.—Horticultural Department	182
Do. —Miscellaneous Department	400
not enumerated as open for prizes	

Total entries 2,278
Each of the entries in the first five classes numbers four or more animals, which, of course, would greatly swell the list.

A Recipe for Cholera Infantum, Cholera Morbus, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, &c.

MESSRS. EDITORS: I have for many years enjoyed the benefits of a valuable medicine which I wish to make known to others. It is simple, pleasant to the taste, and very efficacious in curing cholera infantum or summer complaint and like affections in the old as well as the young.

Take of pulverized rhubarb a teaspoonful, saleratus two-thirds ditto, peppermint leaves (dried preferred) a teaspoonful; pour on half a pint of boiling water; when cool, strain and sweeten with pure white sugar. If the indications call for it two or three table-spoonfuls of good brandy may be added. From a teaspoonful to a table spoonful is a dose for an infant, a wine-glassful for an adult. It may be given every two hours or every fifteen minutes, according to the urgency of the case. If an irritable stomach rejects it do not therefore desist, for the irritation may be allayed by persistence in the use of this remedy; but give it in half-doses.

I have often used this medicine without the presence of a physician, and almost as often in his presence and with his consent, and it has never failed to produce the most salutary effects. The whole quantity here named is seldom administered to an adult, nor is the half of it ever given to an infant. The relief afforded is the indication to suspend, and this is generally experienced before purgatives are produced. In the use of so harmless a medicine every reflecting parent may of course exercise considerable discretion. Yours, respectfully, A.B.C.
[National Intelligencer.]

The Cincinnati Times publishes a list of subscribers to a fund raised in that city to carry the late elections the way they did not go; the Catholic bishop, Purcell, figures in the list for \$5,000.

WEBSTER'S RULE OF ORATORY.—AN INSTRUCTIVE ANECDOTE.—Daniel Webster, a short time previous to his last reception in Boston, was traveling from New York to this city by the overland route. When the cars reached Springfield, Mr. Waite, the well known and excellent conductor, stepped forward into the car, and as usual, announced—"Springfield station—twenty minutes allowed passengers to dine!" Mr. Webster who was sitting by him, arose, and pleasantly tapping him on the shoulder, remarked—"Young man, that is one of the most interesting speeches I ever heard in my life." "Yes, sir," calmly replied the conductor, "all speeches are good in which the speaker and the hearer heartily sympathize." "Very true," said Mr. Webster, "and I have always noticed that those speeches are always considered best which are finished in good season for dinner."—[Boston Times.]

CENTRAL RAILROAD FINISHED TO THE OHIO.—On Saturday last the locomotive Mastodon, with Superintendent Fuller, passed over the Central road from the Ohio river to Zanesville. The track is reported to be in good order. On Monday next, it is reported, the regular trains will run through from Columbus to the Ohio. It is an important event to this city and to Central Ohio.—[O. S. Jour.]

A Country Home.

Oh! give me a home in the country wide,
A seat by the farmer's wood fireside,
Where the fire burns bright,
On a frosty night.
Where the jest, the song and laugh are free—
Oh! the farmer's home is the home for me.
Oh! give me a home in the country wide,
When the earth comes out as a blushing bride,
With her buds and flowers,
In the bright spring hours,
Her bridal song ringing, from fresh-leaved trees,
And melody floats on the perfumed breeze.
In summer, a seat in a shady nook,
And close by the side of a cooling brook,
Where the violet grows,
Or the pale swamp rose.
Fainting and sick, 'neath the sun's scorching beam,
Dips her fair petals in the cooling stream.
Oh! give me a home in the country wide,
In the golden days of a farmer's pride,
When his barns are filled
From the fields he's tilled,
And he feels that his yearly task is done,
Smiling at winter, he beckons him on.

A DESPERATE GAME COCK.—A remarkable instance of the daring of a game cock lately occurred at Melton, Mawbray, to a young man named Hill. He was endeavoring to catch a hen, when a cock flew at him from the wall, striking one of his spurs in his neck just behind the ear, while with the other spur he cut his left eyebrow nearly off. Hill was knocked down, and from the great quantity of blood which flowed, it was at first apprehended that the jugular vein had been cut. —[Eng. paper.]

LIVE BRACES FOR FRUIT TREES.—Mr. Lewis of Kentucky publishes the following plan for supporting overloaded branches of trees: "When I find a forked tree that is liable to split, I look for a small limb on each fork, and clean them of leaves and lateral branches for most of their length. I then carefully bring them together and wind them around each other from one branch to the other. In twelve months the ends can be cut off. This brace will grow as fast as any other part of the tree, and it is a perfect security from splitting. I have them now of all sizes, and I scarcely ever knew one to fail to grow."

Buckwheat cakes are not well adapted to women or children. Men who are engaged in outdoor occupations and have strong digestive powers, can dispose of them; but they should be eaten by no one of indoor habits, disposed to constipation or dyspepsia. Children should never begin to eat them until they have a full set of teeth, and then should be watched until they become accustomed to them; for they are feverish things at best.

The cities of New Orleans, Philadelphia, New York and Boston, are, it is said, to be successively honored with the visit of a Spanish fleet of six steamers and six sailing vessels, the object being to exhibit to American citizens the splendor of the Spanish uniform, and the beauty of Spanish sailors.

On the 9th and 10th instants there was a great sale of lots in Leavenworth, Kansas territory, which attracted a large attendance. One hundred and four lots in all were disposed of, at prices ranging from \$350 down to \$75, and the aggregate sales amounted to \$12,600.

During your travels in Canada, Mr. Slo-cum, did you meet with any thing that arrested your attention? "Yes, sir—a deputy sheriff; he not only arrested my attention, but my person also, and marched us both off to Lincoln county jail, for crossing the line without paying duty on a yaller dog."

A jailor in a western state had received strict orders not to keep his prisoners in solitary confinement. Once, when he had but two in charge, one escaped, and he was obliged, in consequence, to kick the other out of doors, in order to comply with the regulation.

How true it is of too many preachers, as Sidney Smith says of Rennel, "that he is too apt to put on the appearance of a holy bully, as if he could carry his point against infidelity by big words and strong abuse, and kick and cuff men into Christians."